

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1888, May 28, 1955

CINEMA LIKE A SHIP

Matthew Flinders, the Lincolnshire-born navigator who explored the Australian coastline 150 years ago, is being commemorated in a novel way at Mornington, 30 miles south of Melbourne. It was here that the great explorer landed during his first visit to Port Phillip Bay.

The local cinema, which is only a few hundred yards from where he came ashore in 1802, has been named the Matthew Flinders in his honour.

The foyer has been re-decorated to resemble a sailing ship's poop deck. The ticket office is in a wheelhouse. Ship's lanterns provide the light, and the stairway has been changed to a gangway with a rope handrail. On the walls are two big coloured charts, copies of Flinders' original charts of Western Port and Port Phillip Bay.

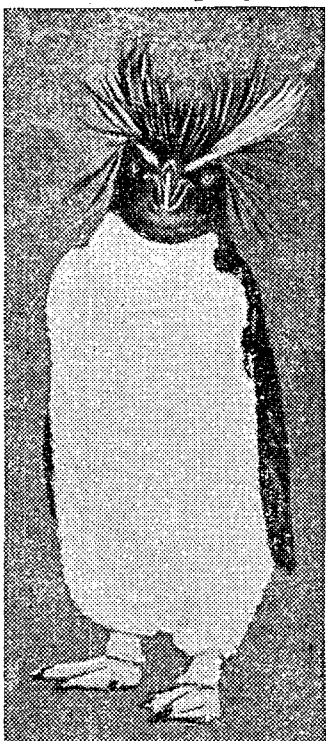
All children visiting the cinema in the first month of its new style are to receive a handbook about Flinders' voyages.

NOWHERE ELSE IT STAYS

Nowhere Else is to remain on the map of Tasmania, a move to alter the name of this small farming town having failed at a recent council meeting.

One Nowhere Else man claimed that the name was "disadvantageous to him" in business. But the council said it was famed throughout Australia, and thought it unwise to change it.

Proud as a penguin



A rock penguin from Tristan da Cunha island shows off its unique hair and eyebrow style at Frankfurt Zoo.



BIRMINGHAM'S FLYING CLASSROOMS

The most exciting lesson for children from 15 Birmingham schools this summer will be their trip in the "flying classroom" of British European Airways.

The pupils make a flight to London and back while the teacher gives a geography lesson illustrated by prominent features of the landscape below. The captains of the aircraft also give talks to the boys and girls en route.

Last year 1125 schoolchildren went on these B.E.A. flying geography lessons, on what was surely the most thrilling day of the term.

SELLER OF COSTARDS

A fishmonger sells fish, but what does a costermonger sell? Captain Alfred Instone, a former chairman of the Anglo-Belgian Union, was asked this interesting question while attending a meeting in Antwerp.

He could not answer the question until returning to this country. Then he discovered that costermonger is a shortened form of costardmonger, an old term for hawkers of costards, an old name for a type of apple.

The term "costermonger" later came into use for a seller of all fruit and vegetables from a barrow.

All ready for a heat wave

One of three charming child studies by Joseph Bergson of Bradford which are on view at the Institute of British Photographers' Exhibition in London. See page 3.

BIGGEST BANG ON EARTH

The greatest explosion in history is to be the subject of a new film. Columbia Pictures are to reconstruct the story of the appalling eruption of the island volcano of Krakatoa in the Dutch East Indies, and to obtain local colour for their story the company are going to Djakarta in Java, about 100 miles from the scene.

When Krakatoa blew up in August 1883, it was estimated that a cubic mile of the ocean had penetrated the crater and been turned into superheated steam. About two-thirds of the island, which had been 13 square miles in extent, was shot into the air. A column of smoke reached a height

of 17 miles, while steam ascended to about 23 miles. A tidal wave 70 feet high hit the neighbouring coasts of Java and Sumatra, destroying 300 villages and 36,000 lives. Vast showers of burning ash fell over a wide area, making deserts of forests. A dust cloud floated round the world, creating fantastic sunrises and sunsets for the next three years.

Where the volcano had stood there was a hole in the sea-bed about 1000 feet deep. New islands were created by the falling debris.

It is not surprising that the film company will have to spend nearly £1,000,000 in attempting to reproduce such scenes.

RED ROSE AS RENT

The Newburn-on-Tyne Council wants to develop as a park a piece of land belonging to the Duke of Northumberland; but as he does not wish to sell the land, the council has now agreed to rent it.

On the Duke's suggestion the annual rent is to be a red rose available for collection by him at each August meeting of the council.

ALL THIS—AND HOTEL, TOO

A £5,000,000 Beverley Hilton Hotel is being built near Hollywood and will open this summer. With the push of a button the temperature of rooms can be raised from polar cold to equatorial heat.

Every room has television and private terraces, and the roof is being equipped as a helicopter port for the provision of services direct to the hotel.

STUDYING THE GENTLEMAN IN VELVET

By the C.N. Naturalist

"Even the mole may instruct a philosopher in the art of digging," declared Aesop, but we really know very little about the "little gentleman in velvet." He is generally hidden from view beneath the molehills of fine earth which he casts up as he tunnels through the fields.

To find out more, Dr. G. K. Crowcroft is carrying out field experiments in Suffolk on behalf of the Zoological Society of London. A grant for this work has been made by the Nature Conservancy.

BENEFIT TO FARMERS

Farmers, of course, are the people who will benefit most from this new study of the biology of the mole; during the war, the Government spent a lot of money trying to reduce the numbers of moles.

Mole-trappers sometimes hear them squeak in their runs, but there are lots of other things we want to know about them—what they eat besides earthworms, what are their populations in different types of countryside, how long they live, how far they travel in their lives.

By a coincidence, while I was writing the previous paragraph I received a telephone call from the editor of a country newspaper to settle an argument as to why a row of dead moles had been hung along the barbed wire on the edge of a field in Shropshire.

WORK WELL DONE

The reason is simple. The mole-catcher employed by the farmer hangs his victims beside the field for the same reason that the game-keeper makes a "vermin gibbet" where he hangs the crows and sparrowhawks shot in the wood. He does this to let his employer see that he has done his work satisfactorily.

The custom arose, however, from an ancient superstition that by hanging up the dead ones they would frighten away the living ones, in the way that a dead rook is sometimes hung on a stick in a field as a scarecrow. E. H.

TIDDLES SAVES THE VILLAGE

Tiddles, a tabby cat, is the heroine of the Devon village of Lapford. Her cries gave the warning that saved the village from destruction by fire not long ago.

Early in the morning, Tiddles began to cry outside the bedroom of Miss Freda Luscombe, whose cottage was on fire. The alarm was soon given and although two cottages were almost completely destroyed, firemen arrived in time to save the rest of the village.



Parachute doctor

This Austrian doctor, coming by parachute to the rescue of skiers trapped by an Alpine avalanche, reports by wireless to the plane above that he has just landed safely.

REV EVANS OF HUDSON BAY

A big school for Indians which is to be opened at Manitoba in June, will have a cairn memorial to the man who first taught the Cree Indians to read.

He was the Rev. James Evans, a Hull Methodist who went out as a pioneer missionary to the Hudson's Bay Company headquarters on Lake Winnipeg in 1840. His mission field covered one million square miles and had a population of 100,000 Red Indians.

In order to teach them to read he worked out a system of signs representing syllables of the Cree language. He cut his own type with a penknife, and mixed his own ink to print them on pages of birch bark.

A triumph of enthusiasm and

skill, it enables the Cree Indians to be taught to read.

There is a lot of literature in this syllabic script today, and the principles laid down by Evans are now used by all the denominations of the church who work among Indians and Eskimos.

In another respect Evans was not quite so successful. He took to the area the Christian practice of one day's rest in seven. This brought him into conflict with the Hudson's Bay Company who felt that their annual race against the return of the ice did not allow this practice.

He was sent back to England, and spent the remainder of his life speaking about his work among the Indians of the north.

NUMBER-PLEASE GIRLS IN DEMAND

London is short of telephone operators, the Post Office tells us. Although thousands of girls apply every year, only about one in four is chosen.

The qualities a girl needs are alertness, good hearing, good sight, and, above all, the kind of voice and manner that make an efficient, polite, and helpful operator.

After a successful interview, weeks of training follow. The complexities of the switchboard, among other matters, must be thoroughly learned.

She joins a proud service, one on which the smooth running of Britain's commercial life to a great extent depends.

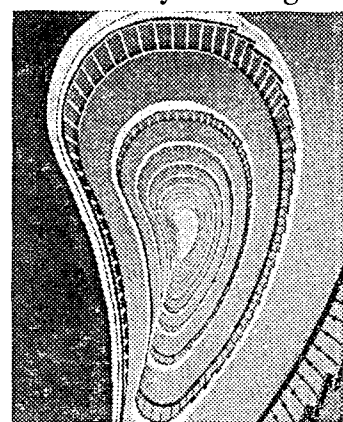
Information about joining the service in London can be obtained from The Telephonist Interviewing Office, Cornwall House, Waterloo Road, London, S.E.1.

FOR A LONG TABLE

A tablecloth 35 feet long has been presented to the City of Nottingham by a local firm of lace manufacturers. It contains 53 miles of Egyptian cotton yarn, and repeats the arms of the City of Nottingham 16 times.

The cloth was laid for the first time at a lunch at Nottingham Council House during the Duke of Edinburgh's visit.

For easy climbing



Looking like a gigantic ear, this 11-storey spiral staircase in Berlin has an oval shape that gives it a more gradual ascent.

PLAYGROUND PLANE

Pupils arriving for their first term at the new Walt Disney Elementary School, Tullytown, Pennsylvania, were delighted to find a real rocket plane amid the swings and see-saws in the playground.

The plane, a Douglas Skyrocket, had recently been retired from research flying for the U.S. Navy.

Three years ago, the same Skyrocket, in the hands of test pilot Bill Bridgeman, had streaked through the icy stratosphere at 1250 m.p.h. to become the world's fastest piloted aircraft.

Cheshire Cat in borough's new arms

The remarkable growth of Ellesmere Port in Cheshire has been marked by the Charter of Incorporation as a Municipal Borough being conferred upon it.

Up to the early 1880s only a few hundred people lived there, but the opening of the Manchester Ship Canal in 1894 brought prosperity. In 1902 the population was 36,000. Now it is nearly 50,000.

Ellesmere Port still combines the features of the country and the town, however. On the fringe of the rich Cheshire agricultural country, the new borough also includes the Shell oil installation at Stanlow, and it is now the second oil port in the country.

Many other industries are centred there, too, and this combination is reflected by the borough's new coat-of-arms which includes a beaver for industry, an oil-pipeline (a new departure in heraldry), a sheaf of corn, and a sickle.

Another new feature in a coat-of-arms is that one of the supporting animals is a Cheshire Cat, with the traditional grin of its species. The other supporter is appropriate, too, a Sea Horse, denoting the maritime connections of the borough.

INSURED AGAINST EARTHQUAKE

The only country in the world which has universal insurance against earthquakes is New Zealand, which has had about 80 earthquakes of varying strength in the past 145 years. Those recorded in the early days, 1834 and 1835, were so severe that Maoris were seen clinging to shrubs and trees in terror.

To-day the Earthquake and War Damage Commission has a fund of £11,500,000 from which to pay for damage done—most of which is usually caused by the fires that follow the shock. The sum is only just sufficient when it is remembered that the 1942 earthquake in Wellington cost about £2,000,000.

Perhaps the most expensive earthquake recorded anywhere was Tokyo's, in Japan, in 1923, which caused damage estimated at £550,000,000. Such disasters are, happily, extremely rare, but New Zealanders cheerfully pay a premium of one shilling per cent to insure their property against Mother Earth's tantrums.

PARLIAMENT EXPLAINED

Thursday's General Election makes this a week of political excitement, and many of us would like to know more of what lies behind it. So we can welcome a two-shilling picture-book called *Your Parliament* (Educational Productions).

With pictures and simple explanations on every page, this official Hansard publication shows us what Parliament does, how the party system works, and what happens in a General Election.

News from Everywhere

MILE OF GOOD WORK

Eleven-year-old Dennis Wenhams of Newport, Isle of Wight, has collected 633,000 metal bottle tops for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Fund. Fitted one inside the other, the tops would have stretched for a mile.

Life-saving lessons will be given by the St. John Ambulance Brigade at holiday resorts this year.

A collection of about 5000 specimens of minerals has been presented to the University of Sheffield, by Mr. A. W. G. Kingsbury of Oxford.

DRAINPIPE NEST

At Crondall Secondary Modern Girls' School in Hoxton, East London, blackbirds built a nest on one of the school drainpipes and reared three babies.

A German and a Swede in Stockholm balanced on a tight-rope for 33 hours six minutes, a world record.

The Danish three-masted schooner *Peder Most* has been bought by the Outward Bound Trust for the Sea School on Moray Firth. She will be renamed *Prince Louis*.

CHINESE COAL

A rich deposit of coal, sufficient to last for 100 years, has been discovered near Chunking, China. This is the most outstanding success resulting from a four-year survey.

Moth balls have kept birds off the runways at North Weald R.A.F. station; 800 of them were placed on the surrounding grass.

A suggestion last year by Princess Margaret may earn Britain many export orders. It was for a lightweight bed sheet for people in hot countries. Now a firm is producing sheets which weigh as little as a handkerchief.

More than 400 Spanish locomotives are to be converted to burn oil fuel, thus saving half a million tons of coal a year.

MORE AMERICANS

The population of the United States has now reached 165 million. It is estimated that there is a birth there every eight seconds and a death every 21 seconds.

A 15-foot dug-out boat believed to be over 1000 years old has been found in the Kentmere Valley, near Kendal.

A swan crashed into an electricity supply line at Halberton, Devon, and blacked out the whole of Tiverton for half an hour.

Safety blow

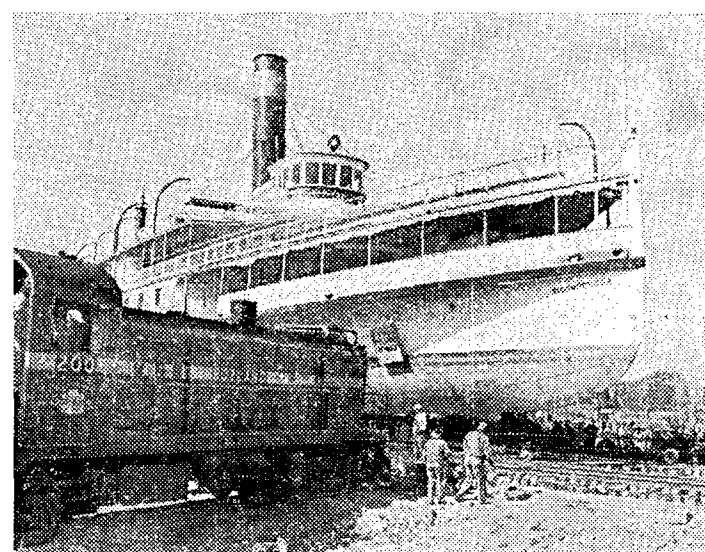


Before her first canoeing lesson on the Thames a novice blows up her lifebelt. This girl is taking part in a week-end course at the National Physical Recreation Centre at Bisham Abbey, near Marlow in Buckinghamshire.

A herd of 60 wild goats at Plashetts, in the Forest of Kielder, Northumberland, one of the oldest in the country, has been rounded up for destruction. In recent months the goats have destroyed nearly 50 acres of young timber.

Tollymore Park, at the foot of the Mourne Mountains in County Down, has become Ulster's first forest park. Now open to the public, it will be available for camping parties from youth organisations. There are also parking sites for 20 caravans.

Steamer on the line!



To move this old paddle-steamer two miles to a museum from Lake Champlain in the U.S., a special track had to be laid across the permanent way of a railroad. Trains had to wait until the ship had crossed.

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CLIMBING FASTER THAN SOUND

High over Istres, France, recently, test pilot Charles Goujon tilted up the nose of his Trident jet plane, switched on the powerful rocket in the tail, then shot away into the stratosphere in a *supersonic* climb—the first time a climb faster than sound has been recorded.

The Trident, so called because of its three engines, is the first aircraft to take-off with a rocket unit providing the main source of power and using jets as auxiliary engines. The rocket unit is mounted in the tail and the two auxiliary jets at the tips of its short, straight wings.

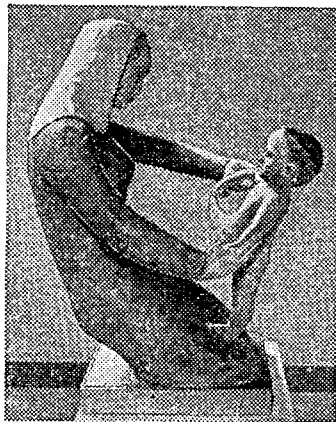
In level flight the Trident should exceed one and a half times the speed of sound. An experimental aircraft, it foreshadows a new light fighter design which should fly even faster and higher.

SCHOOL BRIDGE

Boys and girls attending the Newfield Secondary Modern School to be built on the Thorpe House estate, Sheffield, will go to school over a bridge now being built across a 50-foot ravine. It is a lattice girder bridge designed not to spoil the pretty valley.

The bridge will have a carriage-way as well as a footpath, but it will not be a public thoroughfare. Only wheeled traffic serving the school will be able to use the road.

It is the boys and girls' very own bridge.



Mother and child

This beautiful plaster group called *Mother and Child*, by Marjorie Crossley, F.R.B.S., is in the exhibition of Christian sculpture which is open at St. John's Wood Church in London until May 30. Among the 90 exhibits are works by Sir Jacob Epstein, Sir W. Reid Dick, and Charles Wheeler.

ON HIS WAY TO THE OLD VIC

Gordon Patterson of Colwyn Bay, 17-year-old pupil at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, wants to become an actor. Before a packed house in St. Paul's Church Hall, Colwyn Bay, he scored a resounding triumph with his own Dickens recital.

Gordon made his first stage appearance when only three. At eleven he produced *Hamlet* in Colwyn Bay's largest theatre. His ambition is to perform at Stratford-on-Avon or the Old Vic.

TRAMP WHO MADE GOOD

A baronet, a postmistress, and a churchwarden held a service by the graveside of a tramp at St. Meugan, Ruthin, Denbighshire. They also sang verses specially written in his honour by the Poet Laureate, Dr. John Masefield.

This ended a story which began 12 years ago when the tramp, Alfred Corbett, called at the post office of Llandwrog near Caernarvon to beg for some bread. The kindly postmistress not only gave him food, but also encouraged him to start a savings account.

In 1946 Sir Michael Duff,

Squire of the Vaynol, presented a prize to Alfred for the best story in the competition sponsored by the local savings group during Peace Savings Week.

Alfred said that saving had given him back his self-respect for the last four years of his life. When he died at Ruthin Mrs. Williams made a collection to provide a headstone for his grave, but when Sir Michael heard about it he gave the stone which now stands over Alfred's grave, and his epitaph: He Saved and was Saved.

GILLIAN SAVED UP FOR HER HARP

Ambition of 12-year-old Gillian Betts of Rhyl, is to become famous as a harpist. For years all of her pocket money has gone into an old tin box, known in the Betts' home as the Harp Fund.

When Gillian was seven her parents added some money to the fund and bought her a Grecian harp. Then she started weekly harp lessons. Four years later her parents presented her with a seven-foot harp because she had gained a scholarship to Rhyl Grammar School.

Next month her ambition will draw nearer to realisation, for she is to represent Flintshire at the Urdd Gobaith Cymru National Eisteddfod at Caerphilly in the section for harp soloists under the age of 15.

CAMERA ART

About 1000 wonderful examples of camera art are on view at the Institute of British Photographers' Annual Exhibition in London.

There is a great array of fine portraits of children and celebrities. Cats are also to the fore in delightful colour studies from the Baron Studio: Fudge, a ginger kitten, peering round a bowl of magnolias; and Punter stretching himself on an armchair.

On the scientific side are the ultra high-speed photographs of a bouncing ball, and an X-ray photograph of the sword from the Sutton Hoo burial ship, showing hidden ornamental welding.

The exhibition is being held at the gallery of the Royal Society of British Artists in Suffolk Street, off Pall Mall. It is open until June 7; admission 2s. for adults, 1s. for children and students.



Lighthouse cage

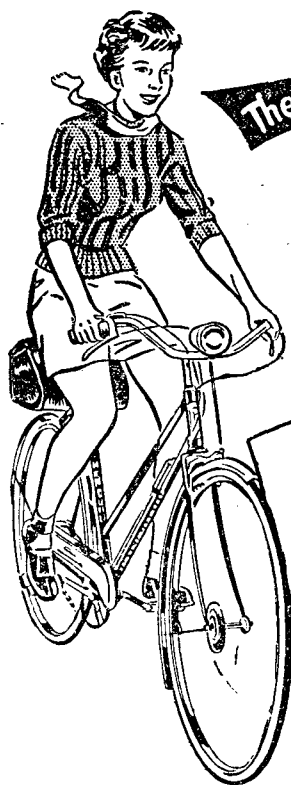
This birdcage replica of Beachy Head lighthouse was built by Mr. Carter of Eastbourne. One of his budgerigars, lives in it. The tower has a light which flashes every 15 seconds.

LONDON HERON

Passers-by who were throwing food scraps to wildfowl in St. James's Park, London, were surprised to see a wild heron descend and join in the free-for-all.

The heron was not very successful, so off it flew again. Later it was seen hovering over the rooftop garden of a big store in Kensington where there is a pond filled with fine goldfish.

The heron made one or two successful raids on the pond from a new "base" in Kensington Gardens, but when its depredations became known a watch was kept and it was driven off.



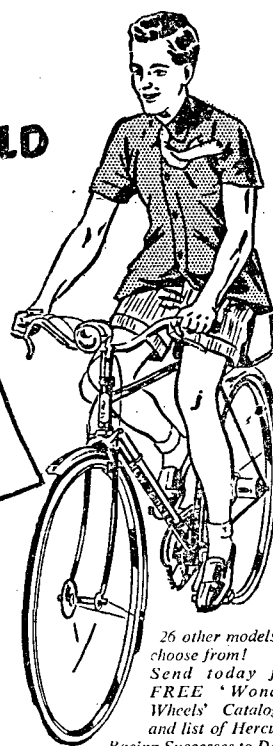
The most fashionable bicycle IN THE WORLD

IMPROVED STILL FURTHER WITH DUNLOP WHITE WALLED TYRES

THE FABULOUS 1955

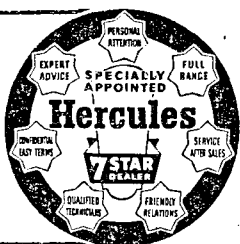
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4
IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK

Death of King David

MAY 24, 1153. CARLISLE—King David of Scotland died here today. Thus ended the 29-year reign of a king who had done so much to establish the Christian way of life in Scotland.

In his early years—at the court of Henry I of England—he studied Norman law and customs, and when he became King of Scotland in 1124, he continued the reforms introduced in the northern kingdom by his parents, King Malcolm and Queen Margaret.

But in the earlier years of his reign King David was more widely known as a warrior king.

As a result of his defeat by the Norman barons at the Battle of the Standard at Cowton Moor in 1138, it was decided that the northern counties of Cumbria and Northumberland were to be English and not Scottish territory.

Two years later he joined his niece, Matilda, in London to aid her in her fight against Stephen, grandson of William the Conqueror, who had seized the throne of England.

For the rest of his reign, except for one brief raid into England, David stayed within the boundaries of his kingdom.

Protector abdicates

MAY 25, 1659. LONDON—Richard Cromwell, son of the late Lord Protector Oliver Cromwell, has today abdicated from the office he inherited on the death of his father last September.



Conflict between the Army, under Lieutenant-General Charles Fleetwood, and Parliament, which supported Richard, brought about his downfall.

Many of his soldiers deserted him and when his Life Guards also joined General Fleetwood, Richard submitted to the Army.

The Lord Protector was forced, five weeks ago, to dissolve Parliament. General Fleetwood's plan was to retain him as titular Protector, but the Army demanded that his powers should be taken away completely.

(In 1660 Richard went to France, under the name of John Clarke. In 1680 he returned to England, dying at Cheshunt in 1712 at the age of 85.)

Pitt fights duel

MAY 27, 1798. LONDON—On Putney Heath this afternoon a crowd of excited spectators saw a duel with pistols between Mr. William Pitt, First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. George Tierney, M.P. for Southwark.

It followed a stormy scene in the House of Commons two days ago when Mr. Pitt accused Irish-born Mr. Tierney of deliberately

impeding public business and thus holding up the defence of the country against the Irish rebels.

Mr. Pitt's accusation was ruled to be unparliamentary, but he refused to withdraw it, whereupon Mr. Tierney challenged him to a duel.

No blood was spilt at today's event. Both men fired two shots without effect, Pitt firing his second into the air.

ZOO NEWS

EXCHANGE ANIMALS—AND GLASS ANIMALS

THE exchange of animals between English and Continental zoos has become increasingly common since the war, but it is seldom that the London Zoo nowadays finds a new source. But an exchange arrangement has recently been made, for the first time, with a Spanish menagerie—the Gardens at Jerez de la Frontera, near the Spanish border.

Under this arrangement, the Spanish zoo has sent to Regent's Park a Pío donkey (a large domesticated species), a lynx, and a number of cattle egrets. In exchange, London Zoo has sent three wallabies.

I understand that some, at least, of the egrets, when they have settled down, may be released to fly about the grounds, as was done on a former occasion before the war. They are friendly birds, with beautiful white plumage. One of them has made friends with its keeper, who, whenever he picks it up, finds that the egret's favourite game is to keep plucking him by his coat sleeve!

From another part of the globe—Malaya—has come another interesting bird, a jacana, or "lily-

trotter," which has so light a tread that it can walk on the floating leaves of water plants without submerging them. Unfortunately, the jacana—a small moorhen-like bird with black, white, and bronze markings—cannot be put on show just yet. During its air journey it injured a foot, and is being treated at the sanatorium.

When it has recovered, however, it will find itself well catered for, for Zoo officials are applying to the authorities at Kew for a supply of large-leaved water plants. These will be grown in the jacana's pond water at the bird house, so that visitors can see the "lily-trotter" in action.

"Its ability to walk on floating leaves is due to its enormously long toes," an official told me. "These are spread out and distribute the bird's weight."

One of the noisiest buildings in the Gardens just now is the ostrich house. Paddocks here are being returfed, and all the cranes and other large birds are confined indoors, where they make the rafters ring with their raucous calls, particularly the six-foot-tall Indian Sarus cranes. The birds are

RADIO
AND TV

FILMING THE FILM-MAKERS ON THE OCEAN BED

WALT DISNEY is proud of his cameramen and believes they themselves should be filmed when engaged in exciting exploits. Few episodes could be more thrilling than the filming of the Cinema-Scope feature 20,000 Leagues under the Sea.

Forty-two men worked on the ocean floor near the Bahamas: 20

actor-divers in front of the camera and 22 technicians behind it. A special camera recorded a step-by-step account of what went on, and the results will be seen in TV on Thursday.

In these glimpses behind-and-below scenes, viewers will also see sharks, octopuses, sting rays, and many eerie forms of plant life.



Two photographers operating the special underwater camera

Pick of the panels

ALTHOUGH What's My Line? is not likely to be seen again on BBC Television, I have news from Producer Leslie Jackson that the same panel may appear on the screens later this summer in a new BBC panel game.

He tells me that the BBC programme chiefs consider the team of Gilbert Harding, Barbara Kelly, Isobel Barnett, and David Nixon to be one of the best-balanced groups ever assembled for TV light entertainment. Eamonn Andrews would, of course, be in the chair.

Sunday School on TV

CHILDREN from Sunday Schools all over Blackpool will be televised on Sunday afternoon in a united Free Church service which is being held in the Empress Ballroom. The service has been framed to unfold the Whitsun story as an historic event and as a personal experience of the present.

Besides the audience of children there will be a large congregation of grown-ups and a massed choir.

Tap-dance concerto

A MUSICAL novelty in the BBC's Light Music Festival at the Royal Festival Hall in June will be a concerto for tap dancer and orchestra.

Back to the West

SPACESHIPS seem to be in dock just now, so far as radio is concerned. For the next few months Charles Chilton, of Journey into Space, is resting on his oars—or should I say rockets?—and Jet Morgan is on holiday.

Meanwhile, the old Riders-of-the-Range instinct has been nagging at Chilton, and now I hear he is going back to Westerns again with The Last Frontier. This will be a Light Programme feature early in June about battles long ago between white men and Red Indians.

Excitement on the air

WHETHER or not one has political views, few things are more exciting than a General Election. Sound radio and TV will whip up interest still further on Thursday (Election Day), and the day after, as the results pour in from all over the country.

Home, Light, and TV will all be on the air from the late evening of Thursday until four a.m. on Friday, and TV will break records by opening up again at six a.m. to show the Party totals continuously on a board.

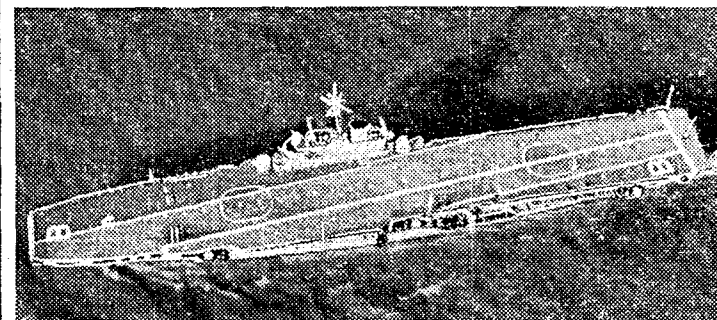
TV will break off from Election news for Children's TV between five and six p.m., but if the Election outcome is decided during that time, the Children's programme will be interrupted for five minutes to give the news.

On Thursday night TV cameras will bring election scenes from about 18 different towns as the polls are declared.

Can you droodle?

DROODLES is the name for a new kind of cartoon doodle which is to be tried in TV's Down You Go when it returns next Thursday (May 26). The panel will have to guess what each doodle represents. Viewers will be invited to submit doodles of their own.

Find, Fix, and Strike



The airman's view of H.M.S. Bulwark (Admiralty photograph)

JOHN LANE of Children's Hour has secured a great scoop with a live broadcast on Thursday from the new aircraft carrier H.M.S. Bulwark during Channel exercises east of the Isle of Wight.

The whole operation—Find, Fix, and Strike—coincides with the Children's programme beginning at five o'clock. With the close co-operation of the Admiralty, listeners will be able to follow all stages of search and attack by naval aircraft in action

against a raider, represented by a destroyer. It lasts from the moment the first strike is airborne until the aircraft land on deck after the attack.

Raymond Baxter and Cliff Michelmore in two aircraft will give the airborne angle, and Douglas Fleming in the operations room, Max Robertson on the compass platform, and Alun Williams in Flight Control, will complete the picture.

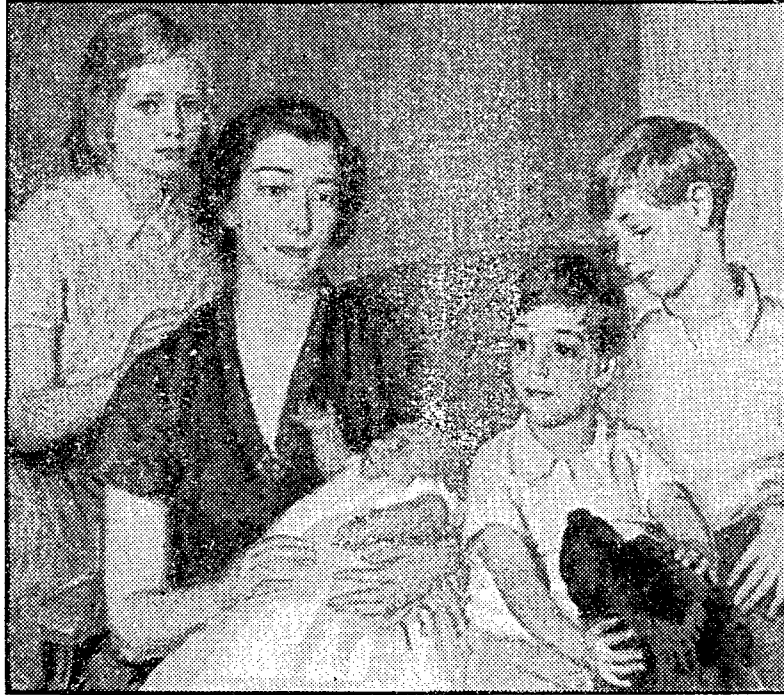
ERNEST THOMSON

CRAVEN HILL

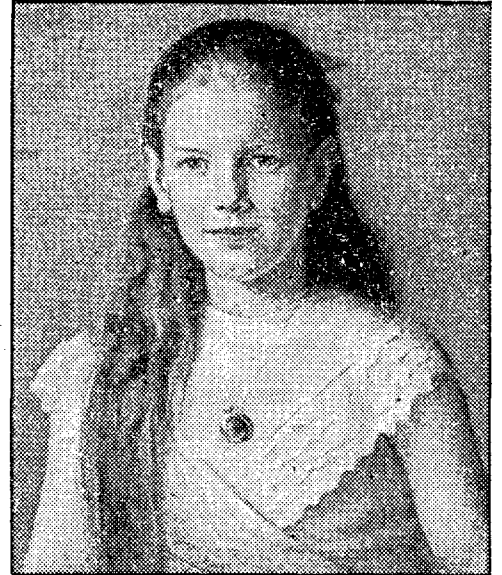
Fine portraits in this year's Royal Academy



Patrick Gould, by Robert Buhler, A.R.A.



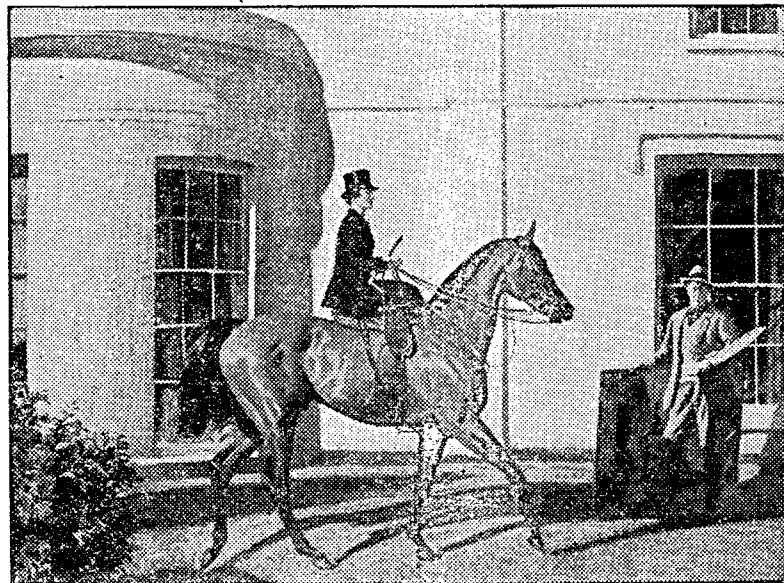
The Lady Kenyon and her Children, by Henry Lamb, R.A.



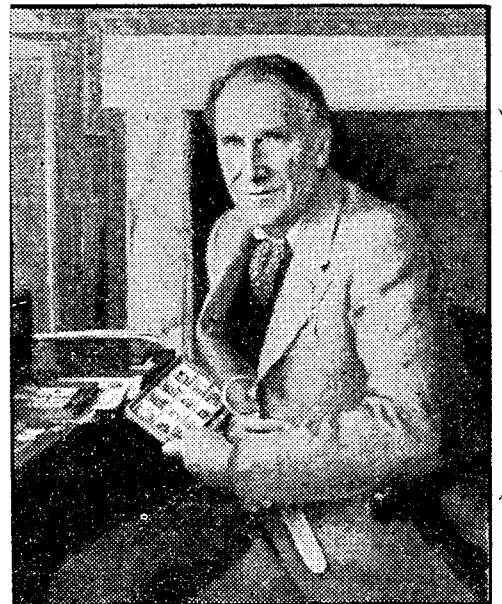
Juliet Aschan, by Arnold Mason, R.A.



Pandit Nehru, by Edward I. Halliday



The Bay Horse and Ourselves, by Sir Alfred Munnings, P.P.R.A.



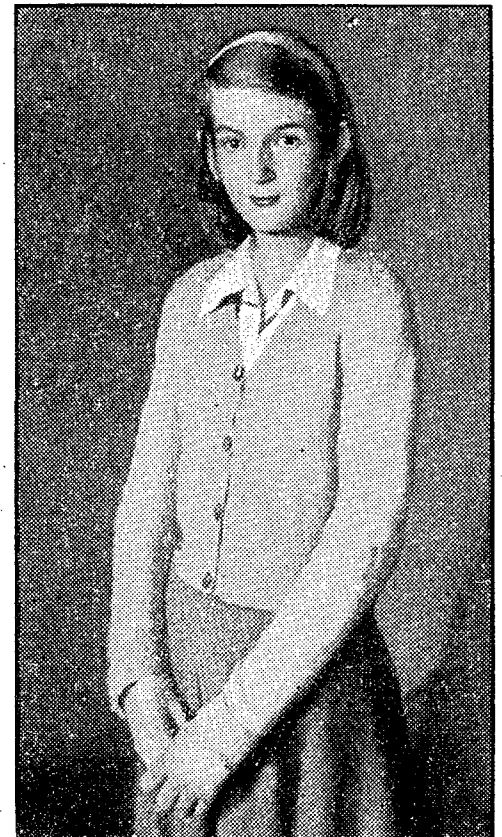
E. Stanley G. Robinson, by Anthony Devas, A.R.A.



The Duchess of Argyll, by James Gunn, A.R.A.



Joan Rhodes, by Dame Laura Knight, R.A.



Melissa, by William Dring, R.A. Elect

Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars . London . EC4
MAY 28..... 1955

FREE AGAIN

AUSTRIA and West Germany have become independent sovereign States again after years of foreign occupation. Young Austrians, and indeed most German boys and girls, have never before known what it was to be citizens of a free country.

It was in 1938 that the Austrian Republic was seized by Hitler's Nazis, and she was forced to share in Germany's defeat. Ten years' occupation of her territory by Allied troops followed, as, of course, has been the case in Germany.

Now those who value freedom everywhere are rejoicing that Austria, so long in chains, is free again.

A welcome, too, has been given to West Germany's entry into the company of free nations. One of the happier developments of post-war years has been the effort of the West Germans to build a new democracy.

Sir Anthony Eden, in a message to Dr. Adenauer, Chancellor of the Federal German Republic, paid tribute to the patience, courage, and statesmanship which have made it possible.

But one thing is certain. Until West and East Germany are once more united there will be no real content. On the ultimate solution of this German problem rests the peace of the world.

Meanwhile, the Federal Republic of Germany has the opportunity to prove herself a Good Neighbour.

THE LONG ARM OF Mr. THERM

WHEN London's first street gas lamps shone in Pall Mall in 1807, there was an outcry against the extension of this dangerous method of illumination. It was said that the gas would poison the air and blow up people, and that the pipes would become red hot and cause fires.

What would have been said of a gas pipeline 25 miles long? Such is the length of one recently opened to take gas from the Fulham works to Slough in Buckinghamshire. It has taken five years to construct, but now it can deliver 20 million cubic feet of gas a day.

Mr. Therm, once so frowned on, now goes rushing from London to cook dinners in Slough.

Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper,
May 30, 1925

By special permission of the Washington conference on disarmament, America has converted the Saratoga, which was built for a battle cruiser, into the largest flying-machine carrier in the world.

This vessel has just been launched and her sister ship, the Lexington, is nearly ready too. She is 874 feet long, and it is believed she can carry 80 flying machines at one time.

To give more room for the flying machines to "land" and "take off," the funnel is right at the side of the deck, instead of in the middle.

CREED FOR LIFE

HELP the weak if you are strong,
Love the old if you are young,
Own a fault if you are wrong,
If you're angry hold your tongue.
In each duty
Lies a beauty,
If your eyes you do not shut,
Just as surely
And securely
As a kernel in a nut. *Emerson*

Speaking up for the downtrodden

INSTEAD of the formal Keep off the Grass notice, a stretch of lawn in Thornes Park, Wakefield, now displays a slogan—Your Feet Are Killing Me. Moreover, it seems to be producing the desired effect.

Sir Anthony's niece



Sir Anthony Eden's 14-year-old niece, Elfrida Eden, is an accomplished ballet dancer. This summer she is in a play at Portsmouth called The Lights Were Amber. Last year she devised the entire choreography for a 15-minute ballet.

Think on These Things

THE children of Israel had been delivered from slavery in Egypt. They had been brought through the Red Sea, and had shaken off their oppressors. They had come to Mount Horeb. Then they began to look back to their days in Egypt. But God's plan was that they go forward.

We must never be tempted to waste time and energy in looking back to what is past. It is to the future that we must look. God calls us because He has a task for us to do.

Life after all is a journey and we must go forward. *O. R. C.*

THEY SAY . . .

PRESENT-DAY youth . . . So gallant, so valiant is the way they cope with the difficulties and problems of everyday life.
Princess Marie Louise

MAN does not live by words alone—despite the fact that he sometimes has to eat them.
Mr. Adlai Stevenson

FEW children realise that the teachers and instructors are earnest students too, who give up much free time in order to keep themselves up to date on their subjects and in touch with the latest trends in education.
London County Council report

I REVEL in fairy stories, and I have heard a few in Glasgow Town Council.
Glasgow Councillor T. A. Kerr

THERE is a very real danger that the old arts and crafts . . . may fade away through lack of sufficient interest or support.
Princess Alexandra

WORD QUIZ

Can you say whether a, b, or c gives the correct meaning of the following five words?

- 1 ARDOUR**
a Fierce heat
b Bower or shady retreat
c A smell
- 2 FLEER**
a Laugh mockingly
b Give sly glances
c Dim-sighted
- 3 PAROTITIS**
a Disease of the gums
b Small kind of parrot
c Mumps
- 4 DECANT**
a Go away suddenly
b Falling away
c Pour off slowly
- 5 CORUSCATE**
a Retire to the country
b Sparkle or flash
c Having bark

Answers on page 12

Out and About

THE clean little stream is a deep luminous green where it flows under some overhanging willows that are robed in new leaves. Lying on the grassy bank and looking over the edge, one can see many plants in the water, for here, on the inside of a bend, the stream hardly moves. Tiny movements are made by water insects.

Keep still! A speckled trout glides leisurely towards us, then almost disappears in the under-water vegetation. Signs of commotion down there soon show that he is snapping up some of the insects, or the grubs of others not yet out of their larval period, such as those of the stone-fly.

At this spot there are also caddis worms, that turn into the short-lived caddis flies (which are not truly flies, for they have four hairy wings). *C. D. D.*

JUST AN IDEA

As Dickens wrote: There is nothing so strong or safe, in any emergency of life, as simple truth.

Next Week's Birthdays

May 29

Sir David Bruce (1855-1931). A pioneer in medical research, he did valuable work in Africa. In particular he established the connection between the tsetse fly and sleeping sickness.

May 30

Peter the Great (1672-1725). Russian emperor who introduced many social reforms, including a modernised currency system, alphabet, and calendar. He also reformed the church and the army and laid the foundations of a navy. Perhaps his most interesting achievement was the building of St. Petersburg (now Leningrad) as "a window towards the West."

May 31

Walt Whitman (1819-1892). American poet who was also a first-rate carpenter. He wrote of everyday things in a way that had never been done before. This year is the centenary of the publication of his most famous book of poems, Leaves of Grass.



June 1

Sir Frank Whittle (1907). R.A.F. officer and inventor. "The idea of a jet-propelled aircraft first came to me," he has said, "as a cadet at Cranwell." About ten years later the first jet plane was in being and by 1939 the Air Ministry had placed a big order.

June 2

Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934). Composer of many fine choral and orchestral works. England had not had a musician of his calibre since Purcell and his talent was fully recognised. He was knighted at the coronation of Edward VII, awarded an O.M. in 1911, and became Master of the King's Musick in 1924.

June 3

Sydney Smith (1771-1845). Writer, lecturer, preacher and, above all, wit. "The Smith of Smiths," as Macaulay called him, was held in great affection by his contemporaries. To quote another of them, "Sydney Smith quizzed everybody but hurt no one's feelings."



June 4

George III (1738-1820). His birthday still means a holiday for boys at Eton.



OUR HOMELAND

The old church beside the Windrush at Swinbrook, Oxfordshire

The Children's Newspaper, May 28, 1955

THE HUT MAN writes about . . .

ADVENTURE BY WAYSIDE AND WOODLAND

Identifying the song birds (1)

IF CN readers have followed the hints I recently gave they should now be experiencing the pleasure of naming many of the birds seen during their walks, meeting them as friends instead of unrecognised strangers.

But I think there is an even greater happiness in being able to name a bird when we cannot see it at all; telling by its voice that it is a willow-warbler we hear in the undergrowth of the lane-side spinney, or a blackbird or missel-thrush on the distant tree-top beyond the meadow.

Once we are able to recognise birds by their appearance it is by no means difficult to learn to do so by their calls and songs. We must, of course, have a great wish to succeed, and we must be able to memorise each voice so that we will recognise it next time it is heard. I'm sure CN readers will not be lacking in the first of these necessities, so let us see what helpful hints can be offered for success in the second.

WORDS RESEMBLING NOTES

When an unknown bird voice is heard the first step is to discover the vocalist's name by approaching closely enough to identify it by its appearance; I suggested how this should be done last month. Then, as we stand listening, we must memorise the call or song so that we will be able to recognise it again without seeing the bird, and I know of only one unfailing way of doing this.

We must think of words which seem to us to resemble the notes of the song, or perhaps only a sound, like a squeaking gate hinge, or perhaps an even stranger simile. Let us consider a few examples.

Some of these memorising aids are very widely known, but with many birds we will have to invent aids which only we will know. The stuttering song of the yellow bunting or yellow-hammer is commonly likened to the words:

Little bit o' bread and no cheese, the last word being a much higher note and long drawn out . . . "Che-e-e-se."

The brief, squeaky two-note song of the great tit is thought by some to resemble the words if-he, if-he, if-he, rapidly repeated, while others describe it as the sound of a saw going backwards and forwards.

I do not care for either of these descriptions. My own idea is that the song sounds like the wire of a fence squeaking through the staple when it is bounced up and down, but others may disagree with my description; in trying to



The song thrush

represent bird voices in this way it is every man for himself.

In his delightful book, *The Charm of Birds*, Viscount Grey gave a humorous but ideal description of the chaffinch's song; he said it reminded him of a bowler running up to the wickets with short steps and there delivering the ball. If CN readers have ever listened to the rollicking song of this commonest of our birds they will, I am sure, agree that no better description could be found.

As I have already said, however, so far as the memory aids we invent for ourselves are concerned it does not matter in the slightest whether our friends agree with them or not. They may say that our description does not remotely resemble the call or song; but if we think it does, and if it enables us to recognise the bird, then it is the best possible aid.

When setting out to learn to recognise bird voices there is one little group that will be found the easiest of all, and this includes those birds which have been named from their calls—birds which obligingly go about telling us who they are.

By far the best known is the cuckoo, but there are quite a number of others with whom we should become acquainted, including the curlew, twite, chiffchaff (a warbler), and kittiwake (a gull). The nightjar and corncrake are also named from their interesting if unmusical voices.

PERFECT SONG

Among the true song-birds there are few better known than the blackbird and song-thrush, yet friends often tell me that they find it difficult to distinguish between their songs. They are both extremely fine performances, for the birds are cousins of the same musical thrush family, but although there is similarity in the rich notes there should be no difficulty in telling one from the other by the phrasing.

The blackbird's song, perhaps the most perfect of all our birds' songs, is composed of short, rich, mellow phrases interspersed with pauses, sometimes of considerable length. The song-thrush is much more hurried in his delivery, with slightly less pure notes; but the most obvious difference is his love for repetition, almost every phrase, and often individual notes, being repeated two or three times.

When we feel we have progressed in our ability to name the birds from their voices we cannot test ourselves more severely than by listening to the great Dawn Chorus with which the birds greet each day at this time of year.

OUT BEFORE SUNRISE

It is at its very best during the present month of May, but to hear it from its start we must go out before sunrise, when dew lies heavy and the rustlings and utterances of the night creatures are still to be heard.

Then come the first notes of the Chorus, often the pensive song of the robin, and bird voice follows bird voice till the sun rises to a countryside alive with music; but, long before the Chorus has reached its greatest volume, even the most experienced bird-voice expert has given up in despair, bewildered by the variety of the joyous sounds all round about him.



All their own work

Luton Sea Rangers put finishing touches to the canvas and wood canoe they have built beside the lake in Wardown Park.

KNOW WHAT YOU SEE

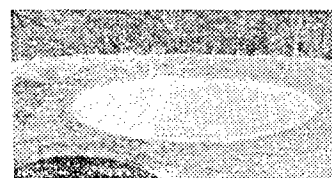
14. Dew ponds

After all these years the dew ponds on the Sussex Downs and elsewhere are still as much a mystery as ever. These small, shallow bowls seldom run dry even in the most severe droughts. One near Chanctonbury Ring, Sussex, has never been known to be empty. In the worst drought

the air. Yet, in a few months the bowl is full.

Making dew ponds has been the task of only a few families for centuries, but this does little to explain the mystery, since the way they do it is known to others. Can it be that these ponds were indeed the Ancient Britons' solution of the Downland water problem?

Not long ago I spoke to the last remaining dew pond maker in England. He has made over 1000 in all, and his forefathers had been at it for 250 years before him. It will be a sad day for Sussex sheep if Mr. Tom Smith's art dies with him. M. T.



A dew pond on the Sussex Downs

for centuries—1893—this pond held its water.

There are no springs nearby, and no other apparent source of water. Science says that condensation is the explanation.

The method of construction at least is no secret. A bowl-like excavation is made, lined with clay and covered with straw. Lime is spread over the straw, then over the lime goes earth, which is pressed firm. There is no inlet for water, except from

THEY KEPT THEIR POWDER DRY

A cask of gunpowder, marked British ordnance, and believed to be 174 years old, has been unearthed at Yorktown, Virginia.

When a little was sprinkled on the ground and ignited, there was sure evidence that the gunpowder was still good.

It was probably left after the Revolutionary War surrender of Lord Cornwallis.

STAMP ALBUM



THE FRAMES THE SAME

FRANCE'S FIRST STAMP (1849) DEPICTED THE GODDESS CERES IN A CIRCLE OF PEARLS AND WITH A KEY-PATTERN BORDER. FIFTEEN YEARS LATER GREECE ISSUED HER FIRST STAMPS. SHE CHOSE MERCURY AS A CENTRAL FIGURE, BUT BORROWED THE REST OF THE DESIGN FROM FRANCE. IN 1872 RUMANIA WANTED A NEW STAMP AND MADE HER KING THE CENTRE-PIECE; BUT THE DESIGNERS STILL COULD NOT GET AWAY FROM PEARLS & KEY-PATTERN.



MONACO is largely composed of the holiday resort of Monte Carlo, and is ruled by Prince Rainier III. His portrait appears on the stamp above.

MORE STAMPS
THAN ACRES!

MONACO IS ONE OF THE SMALLEST STAMP ISSUING COUNTRIES. HER AREA IS ONLY 368 ACRES, YET SHE HAS ISSUED NEARLY 500 STAMPS!



THIS
WEEK'S
ANNIVERSARY

THOMAS
MOORE,
the "BARD
OF ERIN"

b. May 28, 1779

HIS COMMEMORATIVE STAMP ALTHOUGH BEAUTIFULLY PRODUCED WAS NOT WELL RECEIVED BY THE IRISH. THE GAELIC NAME FOR IRELAND IS ÉIRE WITH AN ACCENT OVER THE INITIAL. ON THIS STAMP THE ACCENT IS OMITTED AND THE WORD MEANS "ENCUMBRANCE."

? PUZZLE CORNER?



This stamp comes from:

SERBIA.
CROATIA.
MONTENEGRO?

Answer on back page.

ROYAL OAK DAY CUSTOMS

Schoolchildren have long regarded May 29, the birthday anniversary of Charles II which also commemorates his escape by hiding in an oak tree, as an occasion giving them special privileges. At Blundell's School at Tiverton, for instance, the boys still decorate the premises with oak branches.

In Nottinghamshire the day is known as "Oak and Nettle Day" because it used to be the custom for the schoolboys to chastise with nettles any boy refusing to wear an oak sprig.

Although the custom of wearing an oak leaf has died in many places in Britain, Nottingham is certainly one place where it has survived, for the city has special reason to remember Charles the Second. In 1675 a great fire nearly destroyed the town and the king gave 1000 tons of timber from the royal forest of Whittlewood for new houses.

The gift is still commemorated in the city, the local statue of Charles being garlanded with oak branches each Royal Oak Day.

ANNUAL PARADE

Charles was also responsible for founding the Royal Hospital for old and disabled soldiers at Chelsea, and laid the first stone of the buildings. So each year on May 29 the pensioners parade before his statue and afterwards dine off double rations and plum puddings.

At Castleton, Derbyshire, Royal Oak Day, locally called Garland Day, is celebrated by a very picturesque ceremony.

A procession is headed by the "king" wearing a special garland over his shoulders and accompanied by his "queen" both in 17th-century costumes and riding on horses.

The procession makes its way through the town to the marketplace, and thence to the parish church. Arriving there, the garland is hoisted to the top of the church tower.

Sporting Flashbacks



HARBOUR BUILT IN A VOLCANO

British workmen have just put the finishing touches to a harbour on the edge of an old volcano. This is at Little Aden, five miles across the bay from Aden itself. Two years ago Little Aden was merely a peninsula of sand and volcanic rock but today the great tankers of the world are moored alongside its jetties serving the great new oil refinery there.

The workmen were marshalled in Britain. Air-conditioned living huts were built for them with refrigerators, and when a C.N. correspondent visited the area a few months ago he was astonished to see a town of bungalows with kitchens as gleaming as those in any furniture exhibition.

45 MILES TO CHURCH

Though he is 71, Mr. Richard Clayton of Barnham, West Sussex, likes cycling to church.

On several occasions he has ridden 45 miles to attend morning service at Winchester Cathedral. On bad-weather Sundays he only cycles to Rustington (12 miles) or Emsworth (15 miles).

In the last four years Mr. Clayton has cycled 29,000 miles.

In front of the dark volcanic hills of Little Aden a 3-mile long breakwater pushes its curving nose into the blue waters of the Gulf of Aden. On the inner side of the breakwater there is a protective line of rocks each weighing five tons, and on the seaward side are eight-ton monsters. Each rock was placed into position calculated mathematically so that it is able to withstand the pressure of the sea.

The "bund" or harbour front itself is nearly two miles long and nearly six feet high. Beside it, in 37 feet of water, the oil tankers can discharge and load.

Day and night, six days a week for 21 months, the picked army of engineers, constructors, and labourers worked in shifts to finish the job. Flood-lighting aided the light of the Arabian moon by night while a huge cloud of dust enveloped the whole area.

From England 1284 steel piles, weighing 6000 tons, were sent out and driven into the sea bed to make a foundation for the jetties. From the harbour bottom itself six million cubic yards of mud and soil were dredged to make sure that forty feet of free water was

there for 32,000-ton tankers to float in.

One of the most massive of all the mighty mechanical monsters which have helped to bring the Little Aden Harbour into existence is a crane with a 120-foot long jib. It can swing its great jaw in circular fashion, and at its very tip lift anything up to 13 tons in weight.

This new modern harbour on the edge of the oldest volcanic area in the world is a symbol of mechanical organisation and skilled labour. Little Aden is a modern monument in an age-old land, and its oil will soon be driving the machines and motor cars of Britain.

BOTTLED WITCHCRAFT

Two earthenware bottles, found under the hearthstone of an inn at Coddensham, Suffolk, have been identified as 17th-century "witch-bottles."

Anyone under the "evil eye" of a witch would perform a ceremony whereby the bad influence was enclosed in a bottle, this was then buried to ensure that there could be no escape.

WHIT SUNDAY IN CYPRUS

Whit Sunday in Cyprus is called the Festival of Kataklysmos. This is a Greek word from which we have our English word cataclysm, meaning a great catastrophe. The cataclysm the people of Cyprus remember on this special day is the Deluge and Noah's rescue in the Ark.

The Festival of Kataklysmos creates a great deal of excitement and gaiety in all the seaside towns of Cyprus. In Paphos, for instance, where the goddess Aphrodite, or Venus, is alleged to have been born from the sea-foam, a large wooden cross is thrown into the sea. A boy, specially selected for the task, swims out after the cross and brings it back to land. This is the signal for the games and festivities to begin.

In other seaside towns the fun is increased by the fact that all the boys are allowed to dive into the water as soon as the cross is hurled into the waves.

TAME GOOSE CHASE

In some inland villages the children have to be content with squirting water at passers-by through pipes made of reeds. But wherever there is sufficient water Whit Sunday is gay with aquatic sports. The favourite game is to chase a tame goose launched from a boat. The goose, as if aware of what is demanded of him, at first swims sedately. When the swimmers get nearer it dives and dodges, outwitting them for a long time.

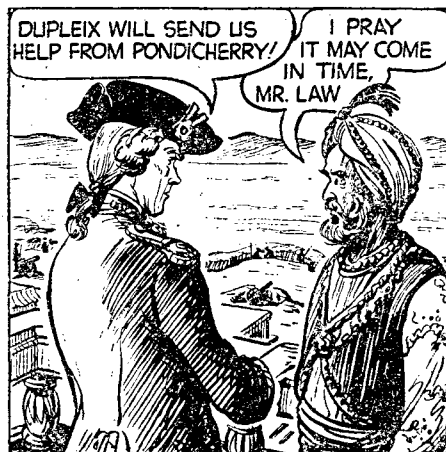
Finally, one of the boys catches it and brings it ashore for the Bishop, who in turn presents it to the captor as a prize.

X-RAYING PLANES

An X-ray device will soon be helping to speed K.L.M. airlines on their way.

It enables technicians to look right through a plane's wings and other components and spot any faults, without expensive dismantling.

CLIVE OF INDIA—new picture-story of the soldier who founded an empire (7)



Clive's men overpowered the French party that had surprised them. Later, they joined in the attack on the besiegers of Trichinopoly, who were commanded by Mr. Law, a gentleman of Scottish descent in the service of France. Brave but incompetent, Law allowed the English to surround him. He kept telling his ally, Chanda Sahib, that help would arrive, but none came and at last he was obliged to surrender.



Elsewhere fighting continued between the Indian allies of the English and the French, but Clive returned to Madras for a well-earned rest. The settlement had become quite gay now with the arrival of ladies from England. Clive fell in love with Miss Maskelyne, sister of a friend of his. But his courtship was interrupted when a volunteer was wanted to attack two forts held by the French, Covelong and Chingleput.



At Covelong the French made a determined resistance. Clive ordered a battery to be erected near the fort, but the enemy fired so heavily on his gunners that they ran for shelter—one man hid in a well! Clive deliberately exposed himself, and the soldiers, inspired by his example, returned to their posts. After further stiff fighting, Covelong surrendered, and the garrison of Chingleput, hearing the news, gave in later.



Clive went back to Madras and married Peggy Maskelyne. But he was now in poor health—worn out by the fatigues of his campaigns, and it was agreed that he and his bride should return to England for a holiday. In March 1753 he and Peggy left Madras, where in so short a time he had won so much glory, and sailed for England in the Bombay Castle. They reached London safely the following October.

What does the future now hold for this brilliant young soldier? See next week's instalment

An exciting new serial by MALCOLM SAVILLE

THE SECRET OF BUZZARD SCAR

Sally and Paul Richardson with Elizabeth Langton are in the local train from Darlington to Richmond on their way to spend a fortnight's holiday in the Yorkshire dales. Sally reads a mysterious letter which Miss Phelps, her father's assistant at the Wise Owl Book Shop, had given to her with instructions not to open it until they are on the train.

3. The curious Mrs. Quegley

PAUL took the letter from Sally and read the typed message again:

Do as the famous lass must have done. Find the court of King Arthur. Ask Mrs. Quegley for something to your advantage and take note of what she gives you.

There was a look of bewilderment on his face when he looked up. "Doesn't mean a thing to me!" he sighed.

"Phelphy didn't do that, I'm sure," Sally said.

"I think it's your father," said Elizabeth. "Does he often play tricks like this?"

Sally shook her head. "No, he doesn't. He tries to make us do things by ourselves, but if he did write this, why did he give it to Phelphy to give to us? And what does he mean about the famous lass?"

At Richmond

"He told us a story about King Arthur last Sunday," Elizabeth remembered, "but whoever wrote it planned that we wouldn't read it until we were nearly at Richmond. It must be something to do with the town and now we're nearly there."

Soon the little train came to a stop in Richmond Station, and by the time they were on the platform with the luggage, their rude travel-

ling companion, whom Paul had christened Ginger Whiskers, with his rucksack on his back, was disappearing through the barrier.

"I bet he haunts us," snapped Paul. "Dad said we'd got to climb the hill to the big market square where all the buses stop, so we'd better get a move on and find out about them before we look for Mrs. Quegley, whoever she might be."

From the parapet of a bridge a few yards from the station, they saw for the first time the brown and turbulent Swale hurrying on its journey through the Yorkshire plains to the Ouse and Humber and thence to the sea. Away on the top of the hill above the river were the ruins of a great castle.

"It would be wonderful to follow the river all the way to its very beginning," Sally said. "I've always wanted to do that to a river." She thought for a moment and then added: "I wish I knew who the famous lass was. I hate not knowing the answer to a riddle."

Mother's song

"I've got it!" Elizabeth shouted. "What fools we are! When we were little my mother used to sing us a song called The Lass of Richmond Hill. Do you remember? That's the famous lass."

Sally wasn't sure that she remembered the song. "All the same," she said, "it makes sense. She lived on a hill, so she had to climb it. We'll do the same. Come on. Let's go and find Mrs. Quegley."

Mr. Richardson had been right when he described Richmond as unlike any other town he had ever seen. When they reached the top of the hill they were in the corner of an enormous cobbled square in the centre of which was the squat building of a church. At the top of the market square beyond some parked buses was a

great stone pillar. Sitting on the steps round this curious monument were a number of dales-people waiting for their buses. Around the four sides of the square were shops and inns and between them, the children noticed, were a number of narrow entrances to many mysterious little courts and alleys.

"I wonder if the court of King Arthur has anything to do with the castle?" said Elizabeth. "We ought to go there and look round, but I wish we could leave our bags somewhere."

"So do I," Paul agreed. "But I'm going to find out the times of the buses first."

Early exploration

There was nearly an hour to wait so they went to a snack bar for a cup of tea and asked the proprietor if they might leave their luggage while they went exploring.

"Let's start at the bottom of the square and walk right round it and see if there's any sort of clue about King Arthur," Sally suggested.

Paul found it first—a narrow entrance with a small cobbled courtyard named Arthur's Court. As they stepped out of the shadowy alley into the sunshine again they found themselves in front of a shabby house, the door of which was ajar. On each side of the doorway was a curtainless window and inside they could see stacks of old books. Above the door in faded lettering they just managed to read: M. QUEGLEY. BOOKS BOUGHT.

Sally admitted she was nervous and Elizabeth said nothing. But Paul stepped forward eagerly and pushed back the door. A bell jangled in the distance but there was no other sound and they stood on the threshold of a room crowded from floor to ceiling with books. Elizabeth pointed to a narrow book-lined passage leading towards the unknown.

Lady in a wheel chair

Paul led the way into another room and then stopped at the sound of murmured voices. The three of them stood close together as Paul said loudly and distinctly: "We're looking for Mrs. Quegley." After a pause the answer came in a surprisingly deep voice. "I am here. Please step into the next room."

This time Sally took the lead and suddenly, round another corner, under the dim light of dusty electric bulbs, they saw in yet another book-lined room an elderly woman sitting in a wheeled chair. Her legs were covered with a rug, her untidy hair was white, and she stared at

them through thick-lensed spectacles. But what really shocked the children was the sight of Ginger Whiskers standing beside her!

"What do you want?" the woman said without smiling.

Sally moved nervously forward. "If you're Mrs. Quegley, we've come to collect something to our advantage. I hope you know what we mean, but we can't tell you much more except that we've been told to ask you."

Elizabeth speaks up

"Who by?" the woman asked, but before either of the children could answer, the young man looked up and accused them of deliberately annoying and following him. They stared at him in astonishment! It was usually Sally who took the initiative in situations like this, but she had not been at her best since they found Arthur's Court, so it was Elizabeth who now spoke up.

"We don't know your name but we think you're very rude," she said. "We only tried to be friendly in the train and all you managed to do was to be unkind." She turned to Mrs. Quegley. "I'm sorry if I sound rude, too, but he's being very unfair. If you are Mrs. Quegley we'd like to speak to you privately."

"I am Mrs. Quegley," the woman said gruffly, "but I don't know what I can do for you. Perhaps you had better look round until I've finished my business

with this gentleman. If you'll go behind those curtains you will find plenty more books." She pointed to some faded blue curtains hiding an archway on the right. "It's quite safe," she added as they hesitated. "You'll only find more books in there. I won't be a moment."

With a scowl Ginger Whiskers moved aside as Sally slipped forward and parted the curtains. The others followed her through into another book-lined room which was tidier than the others. The dusty curtains fell into place and the three children stared at each other in silence. Paul put his fingers to his lips as Sally opened her mouth to speak.

Left to themselves

"Not a word!" he whispered. "Let 'em speak first!"

"Ridiculous, insolent children," they heard Ginger Whiskers say in his curiously high-pitched voice. Then Mrs. Quegley's voice came through the curtains:

"Follow me, I think I have what you want."

They heard the sound of footsteps and the scrunch of the wheels of the invalid chair on the dusty floor. Paul peeped between the curtains and saw that the other room was empty. Excitedly he turned round. "Do you realise what's happening?" he hissed. "We're right slap-bang in an adventure and we've only been here for half an hour!"

To be continued

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It makes you feel fresher

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CHEWING GUM

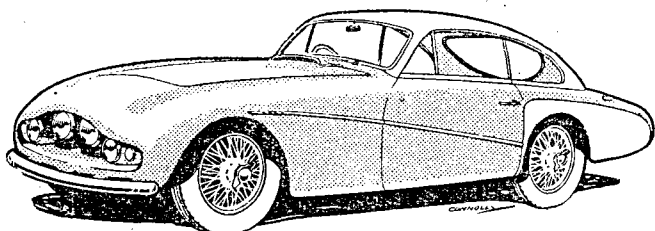
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(EP30,55)

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SPORTS SHORTS

THIS weekend in Berlin five English boxers will be taking part in the first stages of the European Amateur Championships. Among them is Gunner Derek Lloyd, 18-year-old, fly-weight from Chingford. At the beginning of the season now coming to an end, he was almost unknown in boxing, but during the last few months he has won the A.B.A., Army, and Imperial Services titles. His twin brother is an R A F flyweight.

BOWLING for Bilton (Yorks.) in a Wetherby and District Cricket League Match against Shadwell, L. Lambert performed two hat-tricks in the same innings. He took seven wickets for 15 runs.



Nice work—in the summer

The Stuart Ladies Rowing Club has been training all the winter and now the Eight is seen here setting out in sunshine for practice on the River Lea at Clapton in London.

ON Sunday the Women's Track Cycle Racing Association are staging a 25-mile massed start race on the airfield perimeter track at Stapleford Tawney in Essex. Massed start cycle racing is not seen very often in this country, but this race is being held in the hope that a British women's team can be chosen to compete in a three-day massed start race in France early in the summer.

JACK WARDROP, one of the well-known Motherwell swimming twins, has been elected Swimmer of the Year in America. He has also been presented with a gold medal by the National Association for scoring most points in the American indoor championships. Jack Wardrop, who is studying law at Michigan University with his brother, broke the world 220 yards free-style record four times during the winter.

THE annual Whitsun British Games, at the White City, are now regarded as one of the most important of the year's athletics meetings, combining the inter-Counties Championships, and open international competition. All the leading British track and field athletes will be competing this weekend, together with teams from Hungary and Germany.

THE South Africans will provide the Whitsun opposition to Glamorgan at Cardiff. Last time they were in South Wales, in 1951, in glorious sunshine, they won by an innings and 14 runs.

AMERICAN lawn tennis professionals have been experimenting with a new method of scoring—the system used in table-tennis. Each player has five consecutive services (no faults allowed) and the set ends when one player scores 21 or, if the score is 20—20, when one player has a two point lead.

Main advantages claimed for this method is that it quickens up the games and that less emphasis is put on "cannon-ball" services.

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"I'm in increasing demand says Bertie"

Bassett's ALLSORTS

ISLAND OF THE ABORIGINES

A white family who live alone with 400 Aborigines are the Belchers of Mornington Island. Theirs is one of the loneliest mission stations on the Australian coast, on an islet 43 miles long and seven wide in the south-east corner of the Gulf of Carpentaria. The Rev. Doug Belcher, a Presbyterian minister who gave up a comfortable post in Melbourne to come to this lonely place, is struggling to help the islanders make a living. For the Australian Government says that if they cannot do so, they must be moved to the mainland.

Mr. Belcher, his wife, and three young children, have no links with civilisation other than the occasional call of a lugger, and the aircraft which lands every fortnight with mail, fresh food, and other urgently needed supplies.

On Mornington Island Mr. Belcher is not only the parson, but the schoolteacher, Inspector of Fisheries and Game, Registrar of births, deaths, and marriages, and Protector of Aborigines. His reward for leaving civilisation, he says, is the contented look on the faces of the people.

Mrs. Belcher helps him to teach the children while their fathers are out fishing in outrigger canoes or tending the island's 2000 cattle. The village is a single street of rough bark huts.

Every morning the church bell rings for a service and there is always a full attendance.

Inspired by their white pastor and his Gospel teaching, the little flock have so far been able to produce enough food and find enough water to justify their remaining in their island homes.



Leading player

Michael Doré, aged 8, plays lead with his cornet in the Swindon Salvation Army Junior Band.

Stamp news

A STRIKINGLY handsome stamp to be issued by Canada on June 1 will honour the International Civil Aviation Organisation. It shows a dove framed with the English and French titles of the organisation.

THE British Museum has added to its display of stamps. The new items include a fine array of proofs of early British colonials.

AUSTRALIA will issue two stamps to pay tribute to the coach services which did so much to open up the country before railways were extended.

BRITAIN'S internal airmail service celebrates its 21st birthday on Sunday, May 29. The first flights linked Inverness and Kirkwall in the Orkneys.

LONDON'S OLDEST DEBATING SOCIETY

London's oldest debating society has celebrated its 200th anniversary. It is the Ancient Society of Cogers, a link with Georgian days of talk in taverns and coffee-houses. It was founded in 1755 by Dan Mason, a tallow-chandler, the name being derived from the Latin *cogito* ("I think"). and members first discussed the problems of the day in the White Bear Tavern, just off Fleet Street.

Great names appeared on their roll—the celebrated, boisterous John Wilkes, Lord Chief Justice Denham, the notable law reformer Lord Brougham, and many others. Young barristers found the weekly meetings of the

Cogers admirable for polishing their oratory. Charles Dickens would sometimes visit the meetings, and some believe that he discovered many of his *Pickwick Papers* characters there.

As they enter their third century, the Cogers still meet weekly on Saturday nights. An opening speaker is allowed forty minutes, and later participants ten minutes. No woman is ever permitted to take part in debates, but once a month members may bring wives or other women guests. The president, known as "the Grand," sits at a table on which is placed, when debate begins, a waxen apple—the "symbol of discord."

Filming on the Amazon

Paying guests on what may prove a hazardous expedition are sailing with a professional film party who are to make a picture of wild life in the upper reaches of the Amazon. The party are to leave London in a 200-foot yacht early next month, and the guests will be given every facility for taking photographs on their own.

Plenty of exciting material awaits them, for part of the region where they will hunt with their cameras is almost unknown country. The trip has been organised by Salient Film Productions, a new company specialising in unusual films.

Competition result

Congratulations to the winners of CN Competition No. 26, who have been awarded cricket bats or tennis rackets as chosen. They are: Carolyn Auty, Bath; David Catchpole, Cheltenham; Leonard Flint, Rickmansworth; Margaret Pace, Westcliff-on-Sea; and Mary Wraight, Plymouth.

Consolation prize winners are: Richard Barker, Beckenham; Julia Clarke, Bushey; Roland Clode, Bristol; Eileen Engelbrecht, Hull; Ann Kilvington, Croydon; Roderick Little, Coventry; Peter Mitchinson, Northallerton; Howard Owen, Bedford; Rita Uffindell, Beckenham; Margaret Watt, Motherwell.

Answers: Penknife, Shochorn Needlecase, Horsewhip, Bootbrush.

John Jelly's lines

What are believed to be school-boy "lines" written 214 years ago came to light when some old buildings were being pulled down at Isleworth, Middlesex.

In a wall workmen found a piece of paper on which were scrawled, again and again, the first few letters of the alphabet and an incomplete phrase: "Goods ill-gotten, never..." It was signed John Jelly and dated January 22, 1741.

Research has revealed that a John Jelly, a boy of seven, was living in the district at that time.

British cars from Holland

The well-known British make of Standard cars are being produced in a Dutch factory which has just opened and expects to be soon turning out ten cars a day.

The factory was put up shortly after the war to manufacture prefabricated houses and give employment to local fishermen who had lost their livelihood.

The car parts are still to be made in this country, the Dutch factory being concerned only with assembly and finishing.



Susan's STORK LETTER

Hello there,

There seem to be quite a few budding cooks who read this column every month, to judge by some of the delicious recipes you have sent in! I'm busy sorting them all out now, and I'll try to include one or two of them quite soon. They all seem very appetising.

I've been trying to answer all your letters just as quickly as I can, and I'm sorry if you have to wait for a reply. I do enjoy getting your letters, so if there is anything you want to know about cooking, or if you want a special recipe, do write and ask me.

What's your name?

MORE NAMES AGAIN THIS MONTH

This time the names I've chosen are saints' names. See if yours is here.

BARBARA This name means 'stranger'. St. Barbara is the patron saint of art and architecture.

KATHERINE Patron saint of literature and eloquence. This name means 'pure, unsullied'.

AGNES This name also means 'pure' and St. Agnes is the patron saint of purity.

CECILIA is, of course, the patron saint of music and poetry. This is because of the fact that when she was martyred she sang until she died.

More About Clothes

If you were a child in the mid-Victorian age you would probably have dressed something like this.

Dresses of little girls were often made to look exactly like their mothers', except that the skirts were shorter. The pantalettes which show underneath the dress were often just tubes of fine lace which tied on round the knees.

There is certainly a great improvement in the modern dress, don't you think!



A treat for tea

Gingerbread Sponge Cakes

(This recipe makes 12 cakes)

2 oz. Stork Margarine (Always use Stork—it makes everything taste nicer)
4 oz. (4 heaped tablespoons) plain flour
1 level teaspoon mixed spice
1½ level teaspoons ground ginger

1 level teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
1 oz. (1 rounded tablespoon) brown sugar
1 tablespoon golden syrup
1 rounded tablespoon marmalade
5 tablespoons milk



Sieve the flour, spice, ginger and bicarbonate of soda together into a basin. Put the Stork, sugar, syrup, marmalade and milk in a saucepan and stir over a low heat until the Stork is melted. Allow to cool until lukewarm. Add to the sieved ingredients, and stir thoroughly together with a wooden spoon. Put 2 heaped teaspoons of the mixture into each of 12 paper cases placed on a baking sheet, and bake for 20

minutes in a moderately hot oven (Regulo Mark 5—380°F.) on the second shelf from the top. Cool on a wire tray.

That's all for this month. See you again soon—and I hope the family enjoy your little cakes.

Yours, *Susan Croft*

'The Stork Letter',
55 Queen Anne Street, London, W.1.

THE BRAN TUB

BIG JOB

A MAN dashed into a shop and gasped: "Can I have a mousetrap, quickly, please, I want to catch a train."

NURSERY RHYME QUIZ

WHAT were baked in the pie?
Who went to bed with his trousers on?
What animal jumped over the Moon?
Who stole a pig and ran away?
Who was told to put the kettle on?

Answer in column 5

SPOT THE . . .

WATER BOATMAN OF BOAT FLY as he paddles rapidly through the more placid waters of a pond or backwater. His two hind legs, which serve as oars, are fringed with hairs, and he uses them in a manner which can be likened to that of a sculler.



It is odd to note that underwater these insects swim upside down. This may be because the creature finds it easier to come up to breathe, which it does by clinging upside down to the surface film. While resting in this position, the two hind legs stretch out at right angles to the body, reminding one of a pair of oars in rowlocks. Water boatmen possess wings and are strong flyers.

BEDTIME TALE

THE MOUSE WHO WANTED A PALACE

FELICIA was the most beautiful of all the fieldmice living in the burrows in the hedge beside the allotments. But unfortunately she took it for granted that she should therefore have the best of everything—the cosiest sleeping corner, the best hips and haws from their winter store in the old blackbirds' nests. And this worried her mother quite a lot.

When the warm days came, and the carrots, potatoes, and peas were sprouting in the allotments, Felicia—like the other girl mice—began thinking of finding a home and having a nursery of her own where she could rear some little babies of her very own.

"But my nursery won't be a hole in the hedge," she said. "I am going to have a palace." And with a swirl of her tail off she went.

Her mother shook her head sadly, but was too busy to do anything.

Well, a few days later Felicia

came scampering back. "I said I would live in a palace, and so I do," she said proudly. "It has crystal walls which shine in the sun, and delicious seeds and green food inside."

The others said: "Nonsense!" But they all went to look, all the same. Even her mother went.

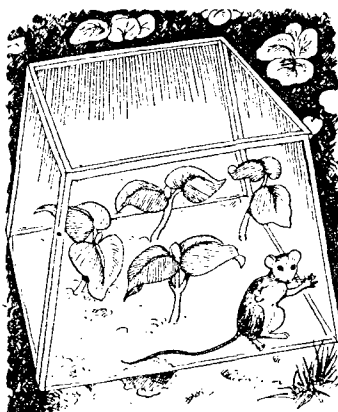
And it was true, in a way, because Felicia had taken up her abode under some cloches where the allotment holder was growing early peas and beans.

Her mother was not impressed. "No good can come of this," she said. "Mice were meant to live in holes, not in crystal palaces."

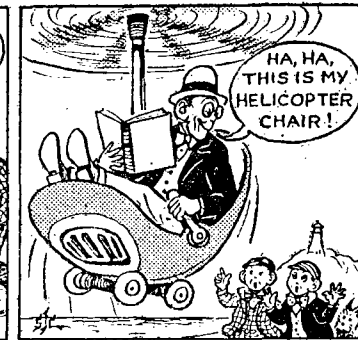
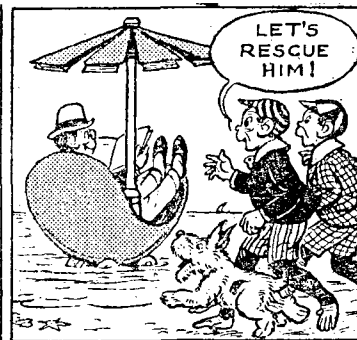
How right she was. Two days later the allotment holder discovered Felicia.

It was only after a terrible chase and endless frights that she got away. "No more palaces for me," she said. And soon she was safely settled in a hedgerow tunnel, with four little babies as beautiful as herself.

JANE THORNICROFT



HELP FROM JACKO AND CHIMP IS NOT NEEDED



HOWLERS

LOURDES is a very famous English cricket ground. Very fine silver is produced at Stirling. A cyclone is a one-man bicycle. Vulgar fractions are made up from very common figures. Parts of South America are covered by treeless forests. The difference between 109 and 84 is that one is bigger than the other.

TONGUE TWISTER

SAY three times quickly: Fred found fame and fortune for his phenomenal philosophy.

SLIGHT ERROR

ASKED by a country lad how to spell "larder" a teacher inquired: "Why, what are you writing about?"
"The Post Office, where they sell post larders."

ALL-EXPLAINED

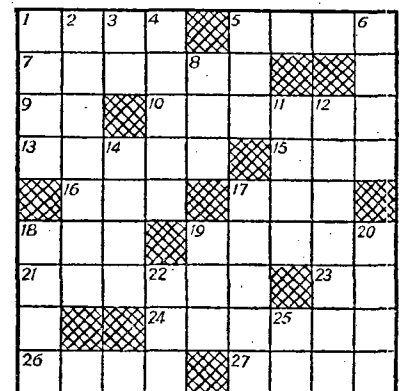
EARS are hearers, eyes are winkers;
Arms are carriers, heads are thinkers;
Noses are smellers, legs are walkers;
And last of all, tongues are talkers.

Crossword Puzzle

READING ACROSS: 1 Deposited. 5 Give out. 7 Respect. 9 French for and. 10 Teacher. 13 Revolving part of machine. 15 Hostel. 16 Vase. 17 Craft. 18 Single. 19 Regions. 21 Highest conceptions. 23 That is. 24 Race or nation. 26 Land for building on. 27 Headland.

READING DOWN: 1 Sly look. 2 Amaze. 3 Pronoun. 4 Devil. 5 Printers' measures. 6 Rotate. 8 Head of corn. 11 Grow weary. 12 Necessitates. 14 A family one shows your ancestors. 17 Willful burning of property. 18 Lubricates. 19 Beverage. 20 Observes. 22 Monkey. 25 Personal estate.

Answers next week



TALE OF THE TOMATO

THE tomato was introduced into Britain in 1596 as a yellow or golden apple. But it was not until the 19th century that it became popular.

A native of South America, its name is taken from the Aztec "xitomate" or "zitotomate."

STAMP ALBUM ANSWER

Montenegro

ANSWERS TO WORD QUIZ

1a, 2a, 3c, 4c, 5b

BRAN TUB ANSWERS

Nursery rhyme quiz. Four and twenty blackbirds; My son John; The cow; Tom the piper's son; Polly
Form a chain. Lemon, one, nest, star, arch, cheese, seven, envelope, pelican, angle
Puzzle of the votes. Mr. Black 600, Mr. White 300, Mr. Green 200

ELECTION DAY AT THE ZOO

WHEN the animals held an election long, long ago at the Zoo,

The candidates were a monkey, a lion, and a kangaroo. The speeches were all recorded by the secretary bird.

But as they all spoke together, his report looked most absurd. Quite in vain the poor bird struggled to hear what each was saying.

For the other creatures were roaring, bellowing, barking, and braying.

The adder added up the votes amid the most awful din. But nobody ever discovered which one of the three got in.

THINKING ALOUD

"Now, Valerie, what is the meaning of 'f' over a bar or stave?" asked the music mistress.

"Forte, miss."

"Very good, now what does 'ff' mean?"

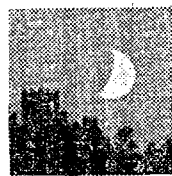
"Eighty, miss."

OTHER WORLDS

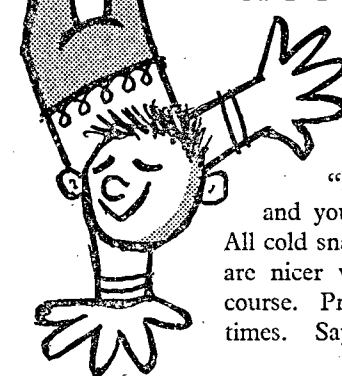
IN the evening Mercury and Mars are low in the west.

Jupiter is in the south-west, and Saturn is low in the east. In the morning Venus is low in the east. The picture shows

the Moon as it will appear at ten o'clock on Saturday evening, May 28.



SAM HANDWICH needs Mustard



AS YOU WERE! Read that as "Ham Sandwich needs Mustard" and you've got something GRAND. All cold snacks—sausages, pies, brawn—are nicer with mustard—Colman's of course. Practise this password at meal-times. Say "Mass the Pustard, please."

PARENTS!

Help your child to the Grammar School
Can you do so? YES! Here is the way.

The "Entrance to Grammar Schools" Examination is a test not only of children's quickness of reaction and natural intelligence but of their knowledge and experience. The schools give excellent training, but the classes are generally large. Individual tuition is the obvious aid—this is provided by Our Courses. They consist of individually planned lessons on the lines of the examination. Your child can work on them. You can help—and most usefully. Our tutor carefully corrects the work and returns it with his comments. No text books need be bought. Let a boy or girl take this regular training and he or she faces up to the examination better prepared and more confident.

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL IS STILL THE FIRST STAGE OF ANY PROFESSIONAL CAREER?

Write for free diagnostic test and details of these courses, stating the age of your child and approximate date when the examination is to be taken. Fees from £2.5.0.

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